



BRAZILIAN MILITARY IN ALLEGED ALIEN COVER-UP

Varginha, a small town in the state of Minas Gerais, Brazil, has become famous overnight because of something other than its excellent coffee. Local people are now celebrating the four-month anniversary of the most extraordinary close encounter with extraterrestrials ever to be registered in the country.

On Saturday 20th January at 3.30 pm, a sunny and bright afternoon, three girls were coming down a narrow path in the area known as *Jardim Andere*, two kilometres away from the city centre, when one of them, Liliane Fátima Silva, 16 years old, looked left and screamed. She saw a strange creature with slippery brownish skin and what looked like three small, rounded horns protruding from its head. It was about seven metres from the point where they were standing, and near the back wall of an old garage.

"He was squatting, with his long arms between his legs," the girl said. "The first thing to call my attention were his eyes, huge and red." Terrified, Liliane turned her back while her sister Valquíria, 14 years old, and their friend Kátia Andrade Xavier, 22 years old, stayed looking at the creature, unable to move.

"It was not an animal and it certainly wasn't human. It was a horrible thing!"

said Kátia, who works as a maid and has three children.

"He seemed stupefied. He didn't make any noise," said Valquíria. But then the creature made a small movement and the three girls ran for dear life.

Forty minutes later, Liliane and Valquíria's mother, Luiza Helena, 38 years old, arrived at the place to find out what had scared her daughters so much. She found nothing.

The story has been widely publicised because, apparently without knowing about the incident involving the three girls, an elderly couple, Oralina Augusta and Eurico Rodrigues, who work as farmhands, insist on having seen a UFO very early in the morning on 20th January. They were sleeping in their house which is located near the road which goes from Varginha to Três Corações when they woken by the noise made by the cows. They looked out of the window to see the animals totally disoriented and running around the house.

"We looked at the sky and saw a grey object, similar to a submarine, the size of a small bus, flying very slowly over the ground," Oralina Augusta described. "There was something like white smoke coming out of it. There were no lights and it wasn't making any noise." Local people immediately associated this spaceship with the ET who appeared 14 hours later.

The day after, Ubirajara Franco Rodrigues, a ufologist and a lawyer who teaches at one of the four colleges in Varginha, started investigating the incident. Mr Rodrigues has been studying UFOs for over 20 years and he says that only one per cent of the so-called UFO sightings are authentic. For him, the Varginha episode is the exception which confirms the rule. "What these women saw was, without any doubt, an alien creature," said Rodrigues. After his investigation he also concludes that at least two EBEs (extraterrestrial biological entities), not just one, were seen in town on 20th January.

Since then, a great number of ufologists have visited Varginha. To be more precise, 66 specialists have been to the city to investigate the event.

"It is certainly the most extraordinary thing we have ever heard about, and we have lots of registers of UFO apparitions," said Claudeir Covo, an engineer who is the President of the *Instituto Nacional de Investigação de Fenômenos Aeroespaciais (INFA)*.

Dr John Mack, a Professor of Psychiatry at Harvard Medical School, is a specialist in research with human beings who have been in close contact with ETs. He travelled all the way from the US to Varginha to do a series of interviews with the three women who said they had seen the alien.

The repercussions of the episode have reached beyond the specialists in UFOs. The most popular Brazilian TV program covered the subject three times in less than two weeks, and the mayor of Varginha is considering the possibility of organising an international congress.

But before such an event, the ufologists working there intend to finish their investigation which has already lasted four months and which points to the Army as the party responsible for capturing and hiding at least one of the two aliens who are supposed to have been seen in Varginha.

In a report signed by 10 different organisations, unveiled is "a real, complex operation, involving military personnel as well as civilians, which resulted in the capture of unidentified biological creatures. These creatures, according to these organisations, "were kept under medical observation for some time and later on removed from the city."

Apart from Ubirajara Franco Rodrigues, another ufologist, Vitorio Pacaccini, 31 years old, has travelled to the area over the past few weeks. Both specialists swear to have listened to 14 witnesses of the ET episode, among whom were four people from the Army. But they refuse to reveal any names or evidence apart from a photograph of a supposed interview with one of the officers or soldiers who would have participated in the operation.

The ufologists insist that an alien was captured by four firemen at 10.30 am on 20th January near a wood which is located a few metres from the place where Liliane, Valquiria and Kátia would have seen their ET. This would have been about five hours before the girls had the fright of their lives.

According to the ufologists, the alien was immediately placed inside a wooden box, covered with a white cloth, put inside an Army truck and taken to the *Escola de Sargentos das Armas* in Três Corações, a bigger town about 25 km from Varginha.

The day after, still according to the specialists, another ET was seen at the *Hospital Regional* in the city centre, and this time, yes, it would have been the same

alien seen by the three girls.

In an operation involving military personnel from the *Escola de Sargentos*, officers from the military police and the fire brigade, the ET, according to Rodrigues and Pacaccini, was taken before dawn on Monday 22nd January to the *Hospital Humanitas*, the best hospital in the area, 1.5 km from the city centre.

At about 6.00 pm on the same day, the ET, already dead, was taken back to the *Escola de Sargentos* in one truck which was part of a convoy of three vehicles.

was directly involved in the operation. He describes in detail everything that happened during those days," added Mr Pacaccini. In the 42-minute recording, this person says that decomposition had already begun and, when the corpse left *Hospital Humanitas*, the smell was pretty bad.

The Army, of course, has denied everything. The mouthpiece for the East Military Area, Colonel Luiz Cesario da Silveira Leite, has said that no military personnel of any kind helped capture an alien. "We worry a lot about national and international beings, but only if they are terrestrials," said the Colonel to the reporter. The Colonel has also classified as "exaggerated" all the connections between the ET and the Army.

"What the ufologists say is ridiculous," said General Sérgio Pedro Coelho Lima, the commanding officer of the *Escola de Sargentos*. According to him, the Air Force is the military organisation which looks after extraterrestrial phenomena. The *Centro Integrado de Defesa Aérea e Controle de Tráfego Aéreo (CINDACTA)*, located in Brasília, has a dossier about UFOs.

"It is true that there are lots of cases which remain unsolved to this day," confirmed Brigadier Cherubim Rosa Filho, a Minister of the Military Supreme Court.

One of the most famous cases involving an ex-minister was confirmed by Brigadier Otávio Moreira Lima (the Minister for the Air Force at that time) and is now celebrating its tenth anniversary without any conclusive facts.

But what makes the Varginha episode unique are some of the details which are only now becoming known to the public and which intensify the whole mystery.

Luiza Helena, mother of Liliane and Kátia, the girls who insist having seen the ET, has claimed that at the beginning of this month [May], four men wearing suits came to her house and offered to pay a large sum if her daughters denied their contact with the alien.

"They said they would pay cash," said Luiza. "They also said they would come



Artist's impression of the 'captured' ET, seen on the cover of Brazil's UFO magazine, published by CBPDV.

The same convoy left the school in Três Corações at 4.00 am on Tuesday 23rd January. Its destination, Campinas (a much bigger city upstate from São Paulo), where the 'cargo' was delivered to another military unit, probably the Army Cadets' Prep. School.

"All this operation was coordinated by Lieutenant-Colonel Olímpio Wanderley Santos," said Mr Rodrigues. "We have the testimony of an Army officer from the *Escola de Sargentos* in Três Corações who

back, but we can't hide the truth."

The four men did not identify themselves, and only the girls were present when they arrived. Their father, João Lopes da Silva, a bus conductor, was working when the attempted bribery happened.

The coincidence between these facts and what the ufologists have discovered was only publicised last week.

The administrator of *Hospital Regional*, Adilson Usier Leite, has confirmed that the week after the appearance of the supposed ET, the two city hospitals went through unusual commotion. In the *Hospital Regional*, a car belonging to the fire squad brought in a corpse which they said had been exhumed and needed an X-ray. The body was said to be that of a young boy, a university student and son of an influential family in town, who had been found dead in a cell at the police station after having been arrested for burglary. At the *Hospital Humanitas*, also administered by Mr Leite at the time, the unusual movement was connected with the arrival of new equipment to be used during the first heart transplant to be done in Varginha.

"When everybody started talking about this ET story, I thought it would be better not to mention that policemen and firemen had been at the hospital," said Mr Leite.

But the ufologists are not convinced. They insist they are telling the truth when they say that, instead of new equipment or a special criminal occurrence, both hospitals in town as well as the fire brigade were trying to hide the body of an ET. And they go further.

Last Tuesday, Mr Rodrigues and Mr Pacaccini went back to Varginha after having been to Campinas.

"We know without any shadow of doubt that the creature was autopsied by Dr Badan Palhares," said Mr Rodrigues, referring to the very well-known Coroner of the *Universidade de Campinas*. "By now, it is very likely that the body has already been flown from Brazil to the USA," finished Mr Pacaccini.

"I don't know where this idea came from," denied Dr Palhares in Campinas.

Brazilian Ufologists Release Public Report on the Varginha ET

After more than three months of intensive investigation, Brazilian ufologists, listed here with the organisations they belong to, have no doubts of any sort that what happened in Varginha in January 1996 was a gigantic cover-up operation, involving military personnel and civilians, which resulted in the capture of biologically unidentified creatures. These creatures were kept under medical observation and later on were removed from the town.

This is a unique event in Brazil with unimaginable repercussions, both scientific and philosophical. However, ufologists all over the world have come to the consensus that in countries where these events take place there is a widespread tendency for them to be hidden from the public.

Ufology has been fighting for over 50 years to make sure the general public has access to information about such events, since the right to have access to the truth should be unquestionable for all humanity.

If you are a direct or indirect witness to the Varginha episode, get in touch with us, as this event may have enormous significance for all mankind. Be assured, your anonymity will be preserved.

Researchers, journalists and specialists are united in this task. Our contact telephone number is: +55 (0)35 222 1020, Varginha, Minas Gerais, Brazil.

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- Edison Boaventura, Jr, and Jamil Vilanova: *Grupo Ufológico do Guarujá*, São Paulo.

- Oswaldo and Eduardo Mondini: *Centro de Pesquisas Exológicas*, Sumare, São Paulo.

- *Centro Brasileiro de Pesquisas de Discos Voadores e Revista UFO*, Campo Grande, Mato Grosso.

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[Note: It has just been confirmed that A. J. Gevaerd, Editor of *UFO Magazine* in Brazil and Director of the Brazilian Centre for Flying Saucer Research (CBPDV), will be speaking at the Australian International UFO Symposium in Brisbane, Qld, on 11-13 October. See ad in this issue. Contact Glennys Mackay on +61 (0)7 3849 6450.]

